

Directive

9180.67

06-01-00

STATEMENT FOR NON-TRANSGENIC GRAIN AND GRADED COMMODITIES

1. PURPOSE

This directive transmits procedures for providing a letterhead statement indicating that there are no genetically modified (transgenic) grain or graded commodities in U.S. commerce at this time.

2. BACKGROUND

The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) has received requests from importers to provide a letterhead statement indicating that no transgenic grain or graded commodities varieties are currently available in commercial production in the United States at this time.

GIPSA can provide such a statement (upon request of an applicant) if the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has not approved any petitions for the release of transgenic varieties of the specific grain/graded commodity for commercial use in the United States. See the product list below for the specific grains and graded commodities which currently qualify for the statement.

3. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive replaces FGIS Program Notice FGIS-PN-99-18, dated 9-23-99, and FGIS Program Notice FGIS-PN-99-21, dated 12-2-99. This directive expands the existing product list of grain and graded commodities available for the non-transgenic letterhead statement.

4. PRODUCT LIST

Non-Transgenic Grains and Graded Commodities

<u>Grains</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Graded Commodities</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Barley	09/23/1999	Dry Edible Beans	12/02/1999
Wheat	09/23/1999	Chickpeas	06/12/2000
Sorghum	12/02/1999	Lentils	06/12/2000
		Peas	06/12/2000

5. PROCEDURE

Upon an applicant's request, GIPSA can issue the following *letterhead* statement:

"There are no transgenic (identify grain/graded commodity from product list) varieties for sale or in commercial production in the United States at this time."

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information about the status of petitions under review by APHIS, please consult their website at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/biotechnology/>.

/s/ David Orr

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